

CONFERENCE TOTAL—WITH COMPARISONS

The total new budget (obligational) authority for the fiscal year 1998 recommended by the Committee of Conference, with comparisons to the fiscal year 1997 amount, the 1998 budget estimates, and the House and Senate bills for 1998 follow:

New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1997	\$9,793,309,000
Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1998	8,383,248,000
House bill, fiscal year 1998	9,183,000,000
Senate bill, fiscal year 1998	9,182,900,000
Conference agreement, fiscal year 1998	9,183,248,000
Conference agreement compared with:	
New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1997	-610,061,000
Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1998	+800,000,000
House bill, fiscal year 1998	+248,000
Senate bill, fiscal year 1998	+348,000

RON PACKARD,
JOHN EDWARD PORTER,
DAVID L. HOBSON,
ROGER F. WICKER,
JACK KINGSTON,
MIKE PARKER,
TODD TIAHRT,
ZACH WAMP,
BOB LIVINGSTON,
W. G. (BILL) HEFNER,
JOHN W. OLVER,
CHET EDWARDS,
NORMAN D. DICKS,
STENY H. HOYER,
DAVID R. OBEY,

Managers on the Part of the House.

CONRAD BURNS,
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON,
LAUCH FAIRCLOTH,
LARRY CRAIG,
TED STEVENS,
PATTY MURRAY,
HARRY REID,
DANIEL K. INOUE,
ROBERT C. BYRD,

Managers on the Part of the Senate.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CAMP). Pursuant to clause 5 of rule 1, the pending business is the question of agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal of the last day's proceedings.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, on yesterday, Monday, September 8, 1997, I was detained in the district for official business. Because of the official business that I was handling in the 18th Congressional District, I missed two rollcall votes. The first was rollcall vote No. 369. Madam Speaker, if I had been present on the floor, I would have voted "no."

The second rollcall vote was No. 370 of which I was paired. However, I would

like my vote to be noted as "no" if I had been present.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. GRANGER). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. JONES] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. JONES addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

DR. PATRICIA WORTHY OYESHIKU: 1997 WESTERN REGIONAL EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. FILNER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Patricia Worthy Oyeshiku, a distinguished teacher from my hometown of San Diego who has made a positive impact on thousands of young lives in our community. I am proud to recognize Dr. Oyeshiku, an outstanding teacher at Morse High School in my congressional district where she has taught since 1971.

Mrs. O, as all her students call her, has just received the 1997 Western Regional Excellence in Teaching Award by the National Council of Negro Women. This excellence in teaching award is designed to raise awareness and involvement of African-American parents, educators and community leaders in meeting the educational needs of African-American youth.

The award recognizes exceptional public school teachers of African-American students who are living the philosophy and legacy of the National Council of Negro Women. Funded by the Shell Oil Company, the award ceremonies are an opportunity to generate greater public awareness and appreciation of excellence in teaching.

This is not the first time that Mrs. O has been recognized for her outstanding contribution to our young people. She was the California Teacher of the Year in 1981 and also a National Teacher of the Year finalist that year. She was honored as the Headliner in Education by the San Diego Press Club in 1981.

She serves on the California Academic Partnership Program Advisory Board, is an Evaluation Team Leader of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing, has served as past Cochairman for all English Department Chairs in the San Diego Unified School District. She is a member of the Advisory Committee in Reading for the San Diego Unified Achievement

Goals Program and of the Advisory Council to an Interdisciplinary Approach to Multi-Cultural Education. She has lectured throughout the State of California on issues related to education.

Mrs. O has always been an outstanding role model for many years. She served in the Peace Corps in Brazil, received the John F. Kennedy Award as the outstanding Peace Corps volunteer back in 1966. She is a member of the Readathon Advisory Board of the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

When I was a member of the San Diego School Board from 1979 to 1983 and its president, Mrs. O helped me a great deal to understand the needs of students throughout our school district and advised me very closely on matters of raising the achievement of all the students in our district. Like those before her who have received this high honor, Mrs. O has worked tirelessly for the benefit of every student in her classes. Her principal, Dr. Shirley Peterson, told me that she is honored on behalf of all the Morse High School Tigers to recognize Mrs. O for receiving this prestigious award and to commend her and applaud her efforts.

Madam Speaker, every student deserves the opportunity to succeed and every student deserves a teacher like Dr. Patricia Worthy Oyeshiku. I am pleased that her efforts are recognized with the 1997 Western Regional Excellence in Teaching Award.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. DIAZ-BALART] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. DIAZ-BALART addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

VOICING SYMPATHY FOR FAMILIES OF VICTIMS OF HAITIAN FERRY ACCIDENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida [Ms. BROWN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to voice my deepest sympathy for the families of the hundreds of persons who drowned before dawn on Monday of this week when a packed Haitian ferry—transporting hundreds more passengers than it was built for—tipped over. These people, who were merely going to work, died tragic and unnecessary deaths. This horrifying event is the second such event in Haiti in recent times.

In 1993 over 1,000 persons drowned in another crowded ferry off Haiti's coast. We should be outraged that such tragedy happens so close to home. But because Haiti is a nation of black people living in crippling poverty, and not an oil-rich country, the United States turns a blind eye. As a member of the Transportation Committee, let me say this: The reason for such tragedy in Haiti is simple—there is no decent or safe transportation infrastructure in Haiti due to lack of funding and necessary expertise. America has failed Haiti and

there is shared responsibility for the failure. The President, along with the leadership in our State Department, should have carved out a realistic financial program to give Haiti the tools to build a sustainable democracy. What is needed is a unique program—designed to fit Haiti's particular needs and requirements. In foreign policy, we need to get away from the cookie cutter mentality that expects all foreign countries to be the same. When we look at the nations of the world, we can see that they have different histories, cultures, and assets. Haiti is the eyesore that will not go away; and the United States cannot continue to turn its back. To do so is foolish because no wall is high enough to keep tragedy from spreading onto our own shores when we refuse to help a neighbor.

As the world grows smaller, the Caribbean region comes closer. Today we stand facing one another; it is increasingly difficult to turn away—even if we do not wish to see the appalling poverty, lack of education, and other serious difficulties.

Haiti's crucial needs include: One, land reform that will make the most of land in fertile areas; two, transportation assistance for a modern, safe transportation infrastructure; and three, administrative reform that includes considerable assistance from the World Bank and other international lending institutions. Only as we face the reality of Haiti's dire needs will we, as a nation, develop a deep, lasting, and beneficial partnership with Haiti. I also implore the media to grant fair coverage to the tragedies in this country. It is time to quit making news, and instead begin covering the news. My prayers right now are with the families of those who have died, and I urge the leaders of this great Nation to reach out to our neighbors whose catastrophes go unnoticed day after day.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. HULSHOF] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. HULSHOF addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida [Mrs. MEEK] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mrs. MEEK of Florida addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

IN MEMORY OF SCOTT McCABE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Arizona [Mr. HAYWORTH] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HAYWORTH. Madam Speaker, it is with a deep sense of loss and great sadness that I come to the floor of the House this evening to acknowledge the tragic and senseless death of a young man I knew well. Scott McCabe served in the district office of the Sixth District of Arizona as an intern in the spring of this year. Before that, he selflessly gave of his time and talents as a volunteer in our 1996 reelection campaign.

Madam Speaker, regardless of our political philosophy and partisan stripe, one miracle of our electoral process can be found in the willingness of so many to join in our cause. Such a man was Scott McCabe. I have memories of him beginning in the early morning hours helping with post hole diggers and using his brawn to erect campaign signs and then coming back to the office and making telephone calls and working literally from dawn to dusk and beyond because he believed in this grand experiment that we call America.

On Sunday of this week, Scott was killed near his home while attempting to foil a burglary. Words cannot describe my shock and sadness upon hearing of this awful event. It should serve to remind all of us of the terrible scourge of violent crime which still plagues our society and it should renew our commitment to stand firmly for the rights of victims of crime, who like Scott and his family, cry out for justice. They deserve no less.

Scott was a wonderful and unique person. He was a gentleman in every sense of the word. Everyone who was touched by his life walked away knowing they had spent time with a man of character and commitment. Scott's death is deeply saddening in so many ways. In his late 20's, he was really just beginning to find his way in this world. He was continuing his college education. He operated a small but growing business, and he was preparing to be married.

His loss is a great one, not only for his family and his loved ones but indeed, Madam Speaker, for all of us. I firmly believe this world would be a better place if only it were blessed with more people like Scott McCabe. He stood firm in his convictions. He worked hard to achieve his goals. He was loved by all who knew him. His passing leaves a void that cannot be filled. He will be missed.

My wife Mary and I join with members of our staff who served alongside shoulder to shoulder with this remarkable young man Scott McCabe. We send our heartfelt thoughts and prayers to his family. Our lives are richer for having known him, if only for all too brief a time. We will not see his like again. He represents the countless thousands who care enough about this constitutional Republic to give of their time, their energies and their passions for this wonderful Nation called the United States of America.

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The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. GRANGER). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. HASTINGS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. HASTINGS of Florida addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

AMERICAN PATENT PROTECTION BEING LOST

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, the gentleman from California [Mr. ROHRBACHER] is recognized for 30 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Madam Speaker, over the last 3 years, I have been involved in organizing support behind the right of the American people to maintain the legal level of protection that had been their right as American citizens since the founding of our country over 200 years ago.

In this particular case, what is being diminished is the American people's rights to own their own creations. What is being diminished is the patent protection that Americans have had since the writing of our Constitution.

Three years ago I did not know anything about this issue. I knew absolutely nothing about patent rights. It was brought to my attention that in the GATT implementation legislation that was being brought before Congress there was a provision that would dramatically change patent law in the United States of America.

I could not believe this was happening, because changes in our patent law were not required by the GATT implementation legislation. We had been promised by the administration that the only thing that would be put into the GATT implementation legislation that went before Congress to implement the GATT agreement would be those items that were specifically required by the GATT negotiations.

But when I called the administration repeatedly to find out if there would be provisions in the GATT implementation legislation that changed our patent law, I was told time and time again that it was none of my business and that they were not going to tell me, or they did not know, or that that decision may be made and it might not be made; but, most of all, it was their decision to make and not mine as a Member of Congress, and, thus, I was not going to be privy to the knowledge until it was actually presented to Congress.

This is what they said to the elected Representative of 600,000 Americans, who represents a high-tech area in California. The people who were telling me this were unelected, appointed, officials.

This should tell you something about the changes that are coming about in our country and the changes that are symbolized by that provision, which they did eventually sneak into the GATT implementation legislation.

What was put in that bill, which was not required by GATT and which we were presented as either you accept everything in this bill or you have to vote against the entire World Trade Organization, the entire apparatus of world trade throughout the world and leave America on the outside, what provision was put in was a change in